fire gifting operations in coal belts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have invited a team of columned experts from U. S. A. to tackle the fire in the coal mines of country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether these steps are proposed to cover the losses being suffered by these coal mines;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). A proposal for controlling/extinguishing fires in Jharia Coalfield was posed to the World Bank for possible financing. During the visit of last Mission, the World Bank team has suggested a diagnostic study of Jharia fires in the first instance.

(c) to (g). Government have not invited any team of expert from U. S. A., to tackle the fires in the coal mines of the country. However, a team of 4 mining engineers was deputed to visit U. S. A. during the month of November, 1991 to search the suitable technology for completely extinguishing the existing fires in Jharia Coalfield. The team has identified the following technologies which could be applied to deal with Jharia Coalfield fires:–

(i) Use of Hydro Monitors quenching the fire followed by excavation of heated debris and coal;

(ii) Drilling under high temperature conditions;

(iii) Infusion of foams through bore holes;

(iv) Use of expanding semi-slurry mix for seaming of the crux and stabilising the area.

Detailed Action Plan is being worked out by Coal India Limited based on the above technologies to control the fires effectively.

[*Translation*]

Foreign Investments

4550. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are encouraging foreign investment in various sectors;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to boost indigenous investment to those sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). The policy initiatives for promoting foreign direct investment in India have been outlined in the Statement on Industrial Policy laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament on 24th July, 1991. As indicated in the Statement, it is expected that foreign investment would bring attendent advantages of technology transfer, marketing expertise, introduction of modern managerial techniques and new possibilities for promotion of exports.

The New Industrial Policy contains specific steps which are expected to boost domestic investment also in the industrial sector. These include abolition of industrial

licensing, removal of restrictions on investments under the MRTP Act, liberalisation of policy and procedures for transfer of foreign technology, import of capital goods and raw materials etc.

Computer for Land Records of States

4551. SHRI RAM SAGAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance to the State Governments for the useof computers for a more effective and maintenance of land records; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Government of India has given financial assistance of Rs. 25 lakhs to 19 State for undertaking a pilot project on computerisation of land records.

[*English*]

Creation of Employment Opportunities

4552. SHRI LALIT ORON: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose any integrated plan for creationg employment opportunities for the people living in villages of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) to (c). There are ample wage employment opportunities available to the people living in the village in the periphery of Delhi because of various plan and non-plan works taken up in Delhi.

Delhi Administration has proposed a scheme, viz. the "Integrated Development of Rural Villages" to provide and develop various facilities to improve the socio-economic status of rural villages. The scheme with a proposed otlay of Rs. 4.16 crores in 1992-93 covers various sectors viz. household industries, public and semi-public facilities, housing community facilities, forestry, commercial centres and infrastructure facilities.

Water Supply in Kottayam and ERNAKULAM Districts, Kerala

4553. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes undertaken for water supply in Kottayam and Ernakulam districts of Kerala with the aid of World Bank or Foreign agencies;

(b) the stages of work of these projects and the time by which these projects are likely to be completed; and

(c) the scheme to be taken up in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). As per information furnished by the Govt. of Kerala, the water supply schemes undertaken in Kottayam and Ernakulam Districts under the World Bank aided Kerala Water Supply and Sanitation project, percentage of work completed and anticipated date of completion are as follows:–